

## Students react to proposed financial-aid cuts



*"There's a large number of undergraduate students (22 years old and under) who are financially independent from their parents."*

—Clare Gertsch



*"All Congress has to do is put themselves in students' positions and figure out what it costs. You gotta eat, you gotta survive."*

—Forrest Roper



*"Imposing the same limit (\$4,000 a year) on financial aid for all students would not be fair because 'not every student needs the same amount of financial aid'."*

—Julie Merriman

By SUSAN KUHLMANN

UNO students voiced their reactions to administration proposals to cut student financial aid in on-the-spot interviews conducted last week by the Gateway.

The students were asked their opinions on three points: the \$4,000 limit on the total amount of federal financial assistance a student could receive in one year; the \$32,500 ceiling on family income, after which no child could qualify for federal assistance; and the proposal to prohibit anyone under the age of 22 from declaring financial independence from his or her parents.

The plan, if approved by Congress, will go into effect in 1986.

Lesia Hunter, a junior, who has received federal financial assistance while a student at UNO, was surprised to hear of the proposed \$4,000 limit. She said she had never received that much, and was not aware a student could receive as much as \$4,000.

Hunter said she disagreed with the concept of using a family's \$32,500 income as a basis of judging student eligibility for financial assistance because it disregarded family size. As an example, Hunter added, "I have three brothers plus myself all paying tuition."

Hunter said a guaranteed student loan was "not really anything they're giving us; you still have to pay it back with interest."

Hunter also disagreed with the third point, and said she thought a student under the age of 22 should be allowed to be independent of his parents.

Forrest Roper is a senior who has received Pell grants at UNO. Of the \$4,000 limit, he said, "I think for some students it's not enough, especially if you work and you have bills to pay and books to buy."

He said the only good thing about the guaranteed student loan is its lower interest rate.

"All Congress has to do is put themselves in students' positions and figure out what it costs," Roper said. He added, "You gotta eat, you gotta survive. It's awful hard to go to school and work full time."

Roper disagreed with the \$32,500 family income ceiling. He said, "I think that's ridiculous. You have some families where fathers don't provide for education — just a place to stay, a roof over your head and maybe food; the rest is up to you."

He said he shared Hunter's feelings about the 22-year-old limit provision.

Rod Gray, a junior, said he has received scholarships to cover his school expenses, but added he might apply for federal financial assistance if he hasn't graduated in two more years.

With regard to proposed spending cuts which would place limits both on the individual student and the family income, Gray said, "It depends on how they're (the federal government) using it." He added, he didn't object if the cuts were necessary and the money saved were spent on things like national defense.

His reaction to the third proposal, he said, would also depend on the reason they're doing it. "It seems like they're trying to keep kids at home and keep parents involved," Gray said.

Senior Scott Ussery said he has never used federal financial assistance because he was turned down the first time he applied and has never bothered trying again.

He said he didn't think the \$4,000 limit was a good idea because it didn't take into account things like out-of-state tuition costs. Ussery said he thought a limit should be "reflective" of how much it cost to go to a particular school. However, he said he didn't think a student should be allowed to go to an expensive

school just to receive more aid, and there should be checks to prevent such abuses, he added.

Of the \$32,500 family income provision, Ussery said, "I don't like that either." He said he was ineligible for assistance because of what his parents made.

"The government just assumes parents are going to support that school. They may have the money, but they're not going to give it to you; it's not yours," Ussery said.

Ussery also said he is opposed to the 22-year-old age-limit provision.

When senior Julie Merriman was asked her reaction to the \$4,000 ceiling, she said she didn't think imposing the same limit on all students would be fair because "not every student needs the same amount of financial aid."

Merriman, who has been receiving federal grants and loans while a student at UNO, said she also didn't think it was fair to base assistance eligibility on parental income. She said there were many cases where students were paying their own tuition.

Nor did Merriman agree with the third proposal. She said because many students under age 22 are financially independent of their parents, she didn't think the provision disallowing it was right.

Clare Gertsch, a second-year graduate student, has also received federal loans. She said she didn't consider the \$4,000 limit unreasonable for undergraduate students. "Looking back, I think that would have been enough for me," she said, but added that she attended a public, not a private, institution.

Gertsch said she thought the amount was "a bit harsh" for graduate students. "If you're going to go across-the-board, I wouldn't see it as being very feasible," she added.

She said she thought a limit set by the government should be flexible enough to accommodate any unusual circumstances a student might have.

Gertsch said she "strongly disagreed" with the family income provision, adding her parents' salary prevented her, at one time, from receiving a grant, even though she was not considered a dependent on her father's tax form.

Gertsch disagreed, too, with the provision concerning a student's age, because in her opinion, "there's a large number of undergraduate students who are financially independent from their parents."

Kathi Kurtenbach called the proposed \$4,000 limit "terrible." She said she doesn't qualify for grants now, even though, "I work full time, and I have a child, and I go to school."

She said she thought the family provision should allow for exceptions, such as a handicapped child, which could cost a family a great deal of money.

In regard to the third proposal, Kurtenbach said, "I don't think that's fair, because after 18 a person can be capable of taking care of themselves, and if they are, they should be entitled to the same things someone over 22 is."

Ed Lakes, a junior, said of the \$4,000 limit, "I think it is bad and good." He said it is bad because it would be a burden for single parents. But Lakes said he thought the amount is enough for single students.

Lakes said he thought a ceiling on family income ought to be higher, and depend on the number of kids in school.

Lakes disagreed with the third point. "I have several friends who are under 22, and they have to pay for rent and food and car payments, and still go to school. When you're 20, you can be out on your own; you don't have to live with your parents," Lakes said.



*"The government just assumes parents are going to support that school. They may have the money, but they're not going to give it to you; it's not yours."*

—Scott Ussery



*"A guaranteed student loan is 'not really anything they're giving us; you still have to pay it back with interest'"*

—Lesia Hunter

Photos by Naohiro Kimura

# 'Peace weavers' oppose action in Central America

By PATRICK C. STEPHENSON

Young and old, men and women, Christian and non-Christian, nearly 60 individuals met in the basement of St. John's Church Friday night to show their opposition to U.S. involvement in Nicaragua and El Salvador.

"To see the absolute destruction, to see buildings that have been bombed, to see soldiers who have lost their arms because of my tax dollars . . . Once you see it, you really are changed."

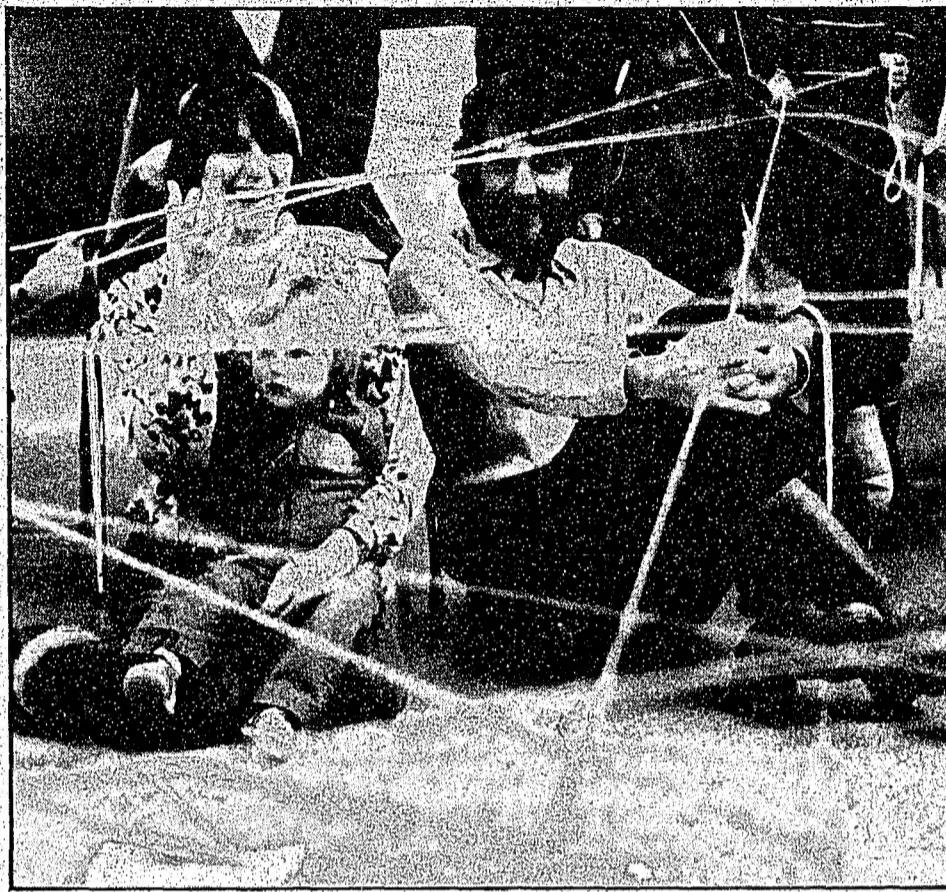
—Robin Lewy

The gathering was part of a nationwide network of more than 42,000 people who have each signed a "pledge of resistance" to participate in acts of non-violent civil disobedience or legal protest in the event that "the United States invades, bombs, sends combat troops, or otherwise significantly escalates its intervention in Central America."

Participants who met at St. John's Friday night sang, held hands, read statements, and symbolically wove a "web of peace" in display of their solidarity with the people of Nicaragua and El Salvador. Many of those who attended the three-hour meeting expressed frustration and anger over U.S. support for the counter-revolutionaries in Nicaragua.

"I feel a sense of shame that my country has been such a bully," said 70-year-old Robert Arnold. "That's the only way that I can look at the United States government in Central America today — just one big bully."

UNO graduate student Robin Lewy credits a 1983 visit to Nicaragua for her own involvement with the Pledge of Resistance. "To see the absolute destruction, to see buildings that



Kirk Frost

Spinning peace . . . "Pledge of Resistance" members weave a symbolic web of peace against increased U.S. involvement in Central America.

have been bombed, to see holes in walls where machine guns were fired, to see soldiers who have lost their arms because of my tax dollars . . . Once you see it, you really are changed," she said.

The Omaha Pledge of Resistance was formed in September 1984 by Father Darrell Rupiper,

who is currently serving a 6-month jail sentence for his part in a demonstration at SAC. In his absence, the group is being co-ordinated by Marylyn Felion and Lewy. According to Lewy, the Omaha organization contains approximately 110 members, including 40 who have pledged a willingness to risk arrest.

The organization is supported by various religious and solidarity organizations. The gathering at St. John's was sponsored by the Central America Solidarity Committee. According to member Doug Lee-Regier, the committee has sent over \$1,000 to El Salvador and Nicaragua in order "to aid the people fighting for freedom and justice in Central America."

Lee-Regier said the primary purpose of the Pledge of Resistance is to bring the situation in Central America to the attention of the American public, in the hope that the U.S. government will abandon any plans for further involvement.

In the event of a U.S. invasion of Central America, Pledge of Resistance members across the country will engage in non-violent civil disobedience at federal facilities, military installations and the White House. The Pledge of Resistance hopes that the very existence of their organization will act as a deterrent to a U.S. invasion of the region.

"I feel that what we are doing here," said Ken Anderson, another member, "is to ask the world that all inhabitants of this planet be allowed to live — truly live — not just have existence."

The Omaha group holds a "solidarity vigil" the first Friday of every month. According to Lee-Regier, the monthly meetings were originally conceived as prayer vigils, but the concept was expanded upon to allow the inclusion of all individuals, "regardless of beliefs, ideologies, or any other barriers which might exist."

The group also holds an organized demonstration on the first Thursday of each month. The demonstration, which is held outside the Federal Building, corresponds with a similar protest by Americans in Nicaragua. The Pledge of Resistance requires individuals wishing to take part in civil disobedience to take a day-long seminar on the philosophy and methods of non-violence. Individuals participating in legal demonstrations are also urged to take the course.

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In Iowa — Carroll, Cass, Crawford, Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Monona, Montgomery, Page, Pottawattamie, Shelby and Woodbury.

Interviews on Thursday, Feb. 7 at 12, 1, 2, 3 and 4 p.m. in the Council Room at the M.B.S.C.

Be prompt, interviews will last 20 minutes.

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# African-Americans stress awareness of heritage

By LYNN SANCHEZ

Before he moved to Omaha, current president of UNO's Black Liberators for Action on Campus (BLAC) Anthony Z. Thomas attended New York City College. While there, he noticed "you couldn't walk across the campus without being handed 50 pamphlets." Students were passionately interested in and involved with causes.

In contrast, Thomas has found his adopted city "very conservative," and much less involved. However, he hopes to arouse

a level of student interest at UNO like he experienced in New York for this, "African-American Awareness Month."

Both Thomas and BLAC vice-president Pamela Wrenn emphasized that awareness of African-American culture and history should not be limited to one month, but should be encouraged all year. This is in accordance with the organization's slogan for February, "Learning from our past, preparing for the future (an ongoing struggle)."

In a written address to BLAC members, Thomas said, "We as African-Americans must understand the need for continual struggle, not only for ourselves, but for our extended family. If we don't see that this is still an uphill battle today, then we may be seasoned for tomorrow's persecution of the masses."

The first project BLAC undertook in connection with African-American Awareness Month was a non-scientific poll of black students to determine "where African-American students are at, culturally," Thomas said. The poll does not deal with specific events, per se, but quizzes students about their personal attitudes on such topics as "racism," "values surrounding family life," and "suffrage vs. apathy." Thomas said the poll is part of an effort to measure the levels of awareness among UNO's approximately 700 black students. "Just because you're black doesn't mean you know about your culture," Thomas said.

Upcoming events for the month to increase awareness will include lectures by black speakers such as Marty Barton, whom Thomas said is "a known illiterate." Barton can not read or write. The purpose of Barton's speech will be to show young blacks that a college degree is not "the only way out." Thomas paraphrased Barton's message as "They haven't trained me to talk, so I have to think on my own."

Besides lectures, BLAC will sponsor events including a video series, youth workshops at the Wesley House and Kellom Center, a bake sale, a dance, and a sale of African-American prints. (For a complete list of dates and times, see sidebar.)

UNO's BLAC organization began in 1966, and is encompassed within a larger group called United Minority Students (UMS), comprised of African-Americans, Native Americans, and Chicano Americans. Active BLAC member Harold Rose explained, "The organization is a rallying point where students can go to find out about the campus, get some informal counseling about classes, and keep abreast of their history and culture." A sign-board in the group's office, Room 126 of the Milo Bail Student Center, chronicles that, since its inception, BLAC has:

"...Urged and created the Student Programming Organization (SPO) to give minority students a better voice in the selection of speakers and entertainment."

"...Initiated teacher evaluation and pass/fail system now present at the university."

"...Fought racism inherent in various campus organizations and programs."

"...Created a student scholarship fund within the BLAC organization."

Returning to the theme of "ongoing struggle," Thomas acknowledged the organization's past accomplishments, but warned against complacency which could cause today's students to "drop the ball." His particular area of concern was for the Black Studies Program. It is one of the few formal means of learning about African-American history and culture, he said, but it is now in danger of being dropped from UNO's curriculum. No Black Studies classes are currently required by any colleges, said Thomas, and BLAC is eager to see that change. Thomas, who is a Black Studies major, said since nearly every profession will eventually require contact with blacks or black communities, it would benefit all majors to have classes in the field to help them understand African-Americans in a historical context. Thomas will appear before the Board of Regents on March 15 to show support for the incorporation of a Black Studies requirement in all colleges.

In addition to local concerns, BLAC members are attempting to educate the community about international problems such as South Africa's apartheid (racial segregation) policy and the famines ravaging some nations. Though people may not enjoy hearing the information BLAC has gathered, Thomas said, "All we're looking for is the truth; nothing more, nothing less."

In a more positive vein, Thomas explained what are called "The Seven Principles of Kwanzaa," which BLAC has encouraged its members to re-recognize this month. "Kwanzaa," derived from the Swahili word "first," is an African-American holiday created by M. Ron Darenberg in 1966. The principles are presented to BLAC members in hopes of redefining the group's "focus and meaning" by going "back to basics," according to an in-house handbook.

The principles are: "Umoja-unity, Kujichagulia-self-determination, Ujima-collective work and responsibility, Ujamaa-cooperative economics and familyhood, Nia-purpose, Kujimba-creativity, and Imani-faith."

## BLAC calendar

These are the events sponsored by BLAC for "African-American Awareness Month":

Feb. 1 — Brother and Sister Day  
 Feb. 4 — Begin video series  
 Feb. 5 — Marty Barton lecture, MBSC Omaha Room, noon  
 Feb. 7 — Eddie Staton lecture, MBSC Dodge Room, 1 p.m.  
 Feb. 8 — Dr. K. Richards-Ekeh lecture, MBSC Ballroom, noon  
 Feb. 11 — Youth workshops, Wesley House, Kellom Center  
 Feb. 12 — Jake Kirkland, Career Counselor lecture, MBSC Dining Room A, 1 p.m.  
 Feb. 13 — Red, Black and Green Day  
 Feb. 14 — Matthew Stelly, Director of Malone Center, lecture, Dodge Room, 1 p.m.  
 Feb. 15 — Chocolate Chip Day (bake sale), Hexagon  
 Feb. 16 — Chocolate Chip Day Dance, Midwest Party Club  
 Feb. 18 — Marty Barton lecture, Omaha Room, 1 p.m.  
 Feb. 19 — Sale of African Prints  
 Feb. 21 — Barbara Hewins-Maroney, lecture, Dodge Room, 11 a.m.  
 Feb. 22 — Art exhibit, MBSC State Room, all day  
 Feb. 27 — BLAC President Anthony Thomas, lecture on Malcolm X, Omaha Room, noon  
 Feb. 28 — Janice Collins-Brooks, lecture, Omaha Room 1 p.m.

## News Briefs

Paul A. Johnsgard will lead a tour entitled The Gardens, Birds and Natural Areas of Southern England May 19 through June 4, 1985.

The tour will begin in London and include visits to gardens and estuaries in Devon, Dorset, Bristol and Oxford.

Johnsgard is Professor in Life Sciences at UNL and has been called "the most prolific of all living ornithological writers."

The tour is sponsored by the UNO College of Continuing Studies and the UNL Division of

Continuing Studies and International Educational Services.

The \$1,610-\$1,650 price includes round trip airfare and transportation, hotel accommodations, field-trip insurance and more. Deadline for registration is March 15.

For application forms or more information, contact Alice Morton at the College of Continuing Studies; 554-2755, or Christa Joy, Flights and Study Tours, UNL, 472-3264.

### Free politics

Shirley Chisholm will give a lecture at

## Birds and bees

Creighton University Thursday, Feb. 14 at 8 p.m. in the Brandeis Student Center.

The lecture, sponsored by Minority Aesthetics of Creighton and the Creighton Committee on Lectures, Films and Concerts, is free and open to the public.

### Learning to work

The Carnegie Corporation has announced the formation of the Carnegie Forum on Education and the Economy, intended to "help chart a course for education policy that reflects

a world economy transformed by science and technology."

The goal of the Forum is to "improve the chances that all Americans are educated in a way that helps them participate effectively in that (American) economy."

The Forum is planned to last 10 years. It will hold annual meetings of 100 prominent business people, labor representatives, government and educational officials and scientists to consider the issues linking educational policy with "future economic needs."

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# Comment

## Lost in left field

Last Friday, the Democratic Party missed a golden opportunity to chart a much-needed change of course for itself in U.S. politics.

Paul G. Kirk Jr., former aide to Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, who managed Kennedy's unsuccessful 1980 bid for the Democratic presidential nomination, was elected new national party chairman. Integral to Kirk's election was his support from organized labor.

The Democratic Party is increasingly perceived as the party of "special interests," including organized labor. (Less than 20 percent of American workers now belong to labor unions.) Witness Walter Mondale's image as a tool of big labor.

Democrats cherish an avowed reputation as the party with "heart" and compassion for the poor, women, minority groups and other distinct segments of the electorate. But along the way, they seem to have sacrificed mass appeal to voters in general. Indeed, the large bloc of white male voters, who do not have the credential of being a discriminated-against minority, voted overwhelmingly for Reagan.

The Democratic Party has remained firmly encamped in political left field, while the electorate seems to be moving to the right. Moderate, "middle-of-the-road" Democrats have come to feel alienated, or at least underrepresented, in their own party. John Glenn, considered by most to have been the most centrist of the eight candidates for the 1984 Democratic presidential nomination, fared poorly in the primaries. Perhaps moderate and conservative Democrats figured: "What's the use? A conservative could never win the party's nomination anyway."

With Paul Kirk at the helm, the Democratic Party will be led by another pro-big-laborite of the Edward Kennedy school of liberalism. The Democratic Party has moved so far to the left, many Democrats, including this writer, have truly been "left behind." Kirk's background reaffirms this.

—JOHN MALNACK II

KOERBA '85



## Neurotica

By Karen Nelson

"You've got to help me," Carol said, pouring herself another cup of coffee. "I'm not sure how much longer I'll be able to hold out against turning into one of THEM."

She didn't look like her usual free-spirited, artistic self. Carol generally wore old corduroy jeans, loose-fitting sweatshirts with slogans ranging from "Vote Yes on No" to "I'm having an emotional crisis of some magnitude," ankle-length suede boots and a down-filled vest. Today, she wore a blue wool suit, high-heeled black leather pumps, a white silk blouse with a blue silk bow tie, and carried a leather briefcase.

We both poured ourselves more coffee. "Well, it started a few weeks ago," said Carol. "I'm going to graduate from UNO this semester, so I thought I would start job hunting now. Since my clothes aren't appropriate for job hunting, I decided to do a little shopping first."

Carol said she saw a rust wool tweed dress she wanted to try on. "I was just getting ready to take it to the dressing room, when suddenly a salesclerk came up behind me and said 'You really should try on the blue wool suit.'

"I told her that I didn't want to try on a blue wool suit that would make me look like everyone else, but she gave me this odd look and said, 'Trust me. Try the blue wool.'

The next thing I knew, I had not only purchased a blue wool suit, but black leather pumps, a black leather briefcase, a black leather clutch purse to go inside the briefcase, and a watch that

gives the time in New York, Paris and Tokyo."

That was just the beginning. In one week, Carol managed to buy 12 silk blouses, an assortment of puffy silk bow ties, and an "Executive Aerobics At Your Desk" videotape; she also made an appointment to have her colors done and started taking stress vitamins.

"It's strange," Carol said. "I feel like one of the last survivors in 'Invasion of the Body Snatchers.' Maybe it should be called, 'Invasion of the Yuppie Snatchers.' The other day, I actually asked my advisor to 'take a meeting with me at Scribbles.' The most frightening thing about it was that she accepted."

We shuddered. I thought about all the idealistic friends of mine who fell victim to the Yuppie Snatchers last year. Jim, who wanted to become a social worker, ended up pushing papers in an insurance agency. Mary decided she would never be able to make a living with a fine-arts degree, so she switched to business administration. Lynn, who wanted to write novels, is now writing how-to-succeed-in-the-dog-eat-dog-world-of-big-business articles.

"The pressure's getting intense," said Carol. "No matter where I go, I see all these people in blue suits talking about stuff like stock portfolios and where to buy the best personal computers."

"I tried changing the subject to the new show at the Joslyn, and do you know what they started discussing? Computergraph-

ics! Honestly, it's enough to make you want to go to a crummy little neighborhood bar and knock back a couple of plain-label beers."

Hanging out in neighborhood bars wasn't the answer, I told her. "The Yuppie Snatchers are there, too," I said. "A friend of mine went to the bar Saturday night to talk basketball with the guys. The only thing is, no one wanted to talk basketball. The guys just sat around and debated which player had the best agent. The last I heard, he planned to go to New Mexico. There aren't any Yuppies on the desert, he said. Of course, by the time he gets there, someone will have probably built a condo."

"I know what you mean," Carol said. She suddenly had a strange look in her eyes. "But, you know, maybe it isn't all bad. Perhaps being a marketing executive instead of an artist might be fun, you know? I'm even beginning to kind of like this blue suit."

Sure enough, the Yuppie Snatchers had her. I made one last attempt to save her. "Surely, you aren't going to continue to wear that silly blue silk tie, are you?"

She laughed. "Of course not. Everyone *knows* that maroon is the in color this year for silk ties."

## The Gateway

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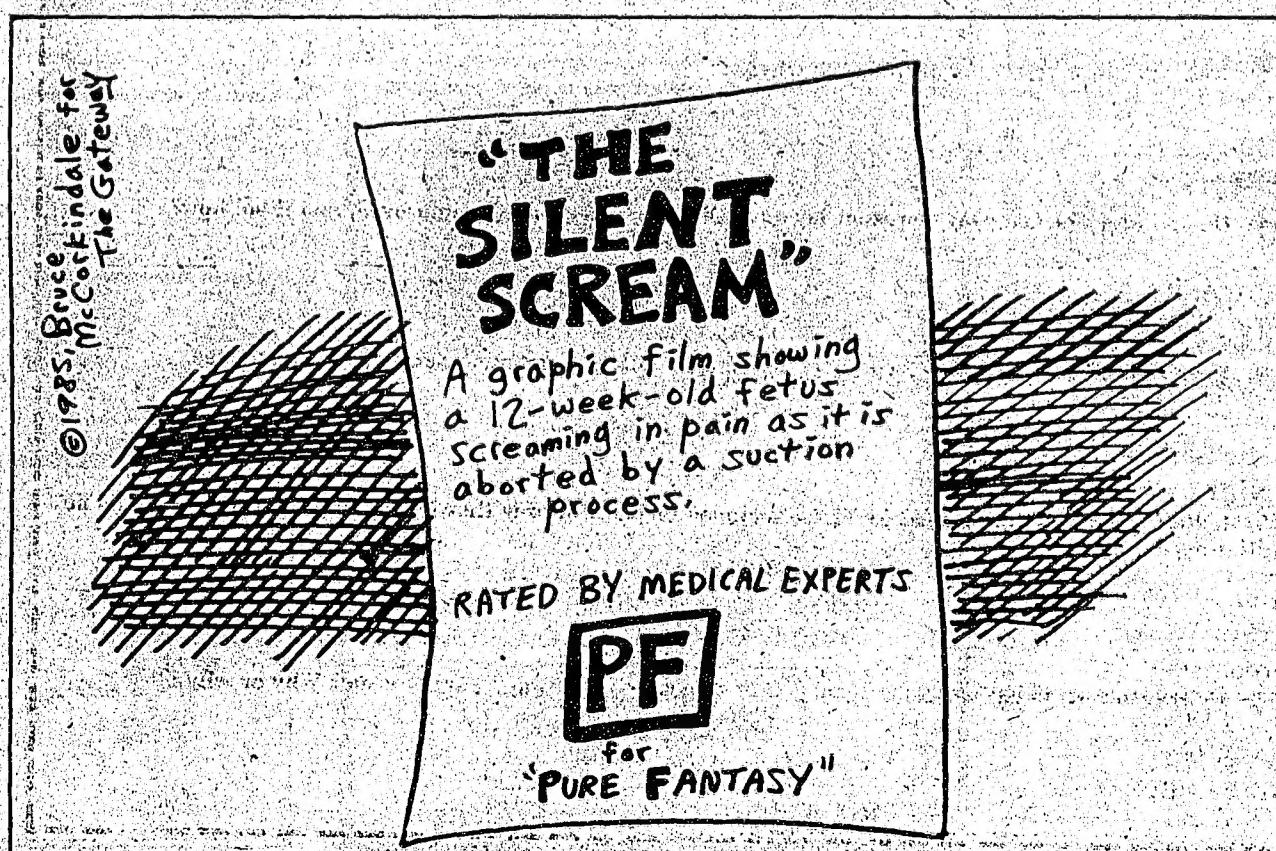
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**Op Ed -**

# Subway riders' fears transcend racial factors

Mr. William Kunstler, the noted attorney (he defended the Chicago Seven in the late 1960s), is filing suit for \$50 million in damages, on behalf of one of the four young men who were shot when they accosted Bernhard Goetz in a New York subway, asking for \$5. The stories I have seen come to this: the lawsuit is designed to demonstrate that Mr. Goetz sought to kill the four on purpose, for purely racial considerations.

Mr. Kunstler is representing Darrell Cabey, who is paralyzed from the waist down, and suffering partial brain impairment, as a result of his wounds.

It is also said that Mr. Ralph Giuliani, of the U.S. Attorney's office, is searching the potential of bringing federal charges against Mr. Goetz, on the grounds of violation of the civil rights of the four youths.

This is the sort of case which displays a "hasty" tendency to blow dust into the well-cluttered nooks and crannies of sound thinking and civil discourse. So many have said such a great deal about so much about which they understand so little. It is tempting to suggest we appear to be in need of learning more about civil rights. After all, it is something we have elevated for a good many years (properly so);

we have done a splendid job of it, and it is as common to our discourse as a well-timed barb at advertising content.

Now, Mr. Goetz has been charged with three counts of illegal possession of a weapon, and nothing more. By New York law, each count carries a mandatory one-year sentence; it is fair, however, to guess Mr. Goetz may receive a suspended sentence, and perhaps a fine. Mr. Cabey, however, faces the rest of his life with physical and cerebral impairment. Without comprehending the whole situation, it is simple to suggest that justice will have been divided in less than an even fashion.

Try a question or two:

1) If Person A believes Person B to be threatening him, and Person A in his own defense shoots at Person B; and, if Person A happens to be white, whereas Person B happens to be black; is it therefore a racial consideration which guides Person A's action, strictly speaking?

2) If Person A happens to be black, whereas Person B happens to be white; and, the same belief of threat exists; is it therefore a racial consideration which guides Person A's action, strictly speaking?

3) Now, let us remove the weapon factor: If

Person B approaches Person A, and demands Person A give him \$5 which do not belong to him, is Person A violating the civil rights of Person B by refusing? If Person B then threatens Person A, and Person A shoots in his own defense, is Person A violating Person B's civil rights?

There would be a racial factor to consider if the following had transpired: if Mr. Goetz had descended into the subway station, approached four black men at random, and simply drawn his gun and fired without allowing them to say so much as "Weather stinks today, doesn't it?" to him. (It would also be attempted manslaughter.) If Mr. Goetz were black, and had done the same thing to four white men at random, one could also make a case for a racial factor, with more credibility than that which Mr. Kunstler seeks to make.

Anyone with intimate knowledge of the decline of New York City's subways can tell you: it is conceivable to feel more secure inside a burning building than in a subway station. One thing which does not pay heed to race, color, creed, or national origin, is fear and loathing in a New York subway. I say this with regret due to a youth which included negotiating the subways around the city, and enjoying every mo-

ment of it.

Now, let us talk about civil rights. Several years ago, a group of youths from the South Bronx decided to create volunteer subway patrols, thinking they and their fellow New Yorkers had a civil right to travel the subway from station to station in security. They called themselves the Guardian Angels. New Yorkers loved them. The Mayor and the New York Police Department denounced them as vigilantes.

The Guardian Angels carry no weapons, are well trained in the martial arts, and exercise the right to make citizens' arrests when needed.

When the Goetz case emerged, the Guardian Angels were among the first to defend his action before the public. If one wishes to find a racial factor in Bernhard Goetz's action, it would not be wise to suggest such a factor to the Guardian Angels, who happen to be well representative of every race to be found in New York City. One might wish to point this out to Mr. Kunstler and company, but try not to rub it in. In due course, they will be lamenting how much simpler it was to defend witless radicals, rather than accuse one frightened subway passenger.

—JEFFREY A. KALLMAN

## Letters

**To the Editor:**

"Wise up if you don't think you need a foreign language . . . you're living in the past." I couldn't agree more — and between your comment and the article by Lynn Sanchez (about international communication trends reaching UNO — Gateway, Jan. 25), I'd just like to add to it.

Last year I spent four months in Europe and Africa. I was truly amazed at the number of people who spoke English in such places as Yugoslavia, Hungary, Morocco to name a few. Not only that — they spoke it well — and often English was only one of three, four or more languages they had mastered. How many of we Americans can boast of that kind of knowledge?

Just as far as traveling goes, I was in 17 or so countries and I can honestly say the *only* place where I experienced consistent difficulty with language was in France. The French were arrogant and very unwilling to help. It was a "you're damned if you do and you're damned if you don't" situation. If I spoke English they were disgusted that I didn't speak French (perhaps rightfully so), and when I'd try to speak French, they were appalled at my massacre of their beautiful language. Either way, I know I'd have enjoyed France far more if I had a more thorough knowledge of French.

Needless to say, I felt a sense of relief when I got to Spain, even though I don't consider myself an expert in Spanish. It was such a relief to be able to look at shops and read signs and know what they meant! Equally great was being able to ask directions and understand what was said. It took a couple days, but all in all I felt like I could *cruise* through Spain, whereas in France I was sure aware of the possibility of missing a train, being held up (delayed), or over-charged simply because of the communication barrier. Italy was easy to travel, too — because of its similarity to *Espana*.

Generally speaking, I found people who spoke English, and if they didn't, they would find someone who did. Unlike most American travelers, I *hadn't* expected to be helped so readily. I figured, it was I who was the foreigner — what right did I have to think they would kowtow to my language?

Imagine a Belgian going into Village Inn and trying to order in Flemish . . . it would take a lot of audacity. So I was impressed with the response I got when I asked "Habla Ingles?" in several different languages.

I guess the important thing is 1: WE AMERICANS ARE FORTUNATE that our language is fairly universal but should really educate ourselves if we are to be wordly. 2: If I should run into someone without the ability to speak English, then it would be wise to be as hospitable — as the Africans and Europeans were — and find someone who does speak their language.

As a rule I found it important upon entering a country to at least be able to say four words properly: *Hello, Good-bye, Please* and *Thank You*. The people respected my efforts that way, even though I had truly wished I could have done more to communicate. With the dollar as strong as it is, there will be even *more* Americans in Paris — it's too bad our foreign language proficiency is at the opposite end of our dollar value. (No wonder they resent us.)

Anyhow, I'd just like to let you know I agree — we Americans really need to work on becoming a bilingual or multilingual society . . . if we are to continue on at the forefront of World Affairs.

Maggie McNeil

## Gateway Reader Survey

What is your opinion of the Gateway? Is it in tune with the pulse of this University, or is it a poor excuse for fish wrap? We are offering you, our readers, an opportunity to let us know your feelings in an attempt to improve and/or expand our coverage of events in which you are interested. After all, it's *your* paper. What do you like or dislike about it? Please tell us. It can make a difference. When you have finished answering this

questionnaire, please deposit it in any of five boxes located on campus: in the library's first-floor foyer, in the broadcasting/journalism office (Arts & Sciences Hall, 189); inside the main entrance of the HPER building; outside the bookstore in the Student Center; or by the Gateway stand in the Peter Kiewit Conference Center. The surveys may also be mailed or dropped off at The Gateway, Annex 17, UNO, Omaha, 68182.

(Please answer all applicable questions)

1) Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ male \_\_\_\_\_ female

2) Class: \_\_\_\_\_ freshman \_\_\_\_\_ sophomore \_\_\_\_\_ junior \_\_\_\_\_ senior

graduate/graduate student \_\_\_\_\_ faculty \_\_\_\_\_ staff

3) If a student, what is your major? \_\_\_\_\_

4) How often do you read The Gateway? \_\_\_\_\_

every issue \_\_\_\_\_ once a week (if so, which issue—Wednesday or Friday?)

occasionally \_\_\_\_\_ seldom

5) Which sections of The Gateway do you usually read?

front page \_\_\_\_\_ news stories \_\_\_\_\_ feature stories \_\_\_\_\_ sports stories

editorial opinions \_\_\_\_\_ photography \_\_\_\_\_ cartoons/editorial cartoons (if so, which ones?) \_\_\_\_\_

"Newsbriefs" \_\_\_\_\_ "What's Next" \_\_\_\_\_ reviews

"Weekend Wire" \_\_\_\_\_ "Neurotica" \_\_\_\_\_ syndicated columns (e.g. Colman McCarthy)

advertisements/"Entertainment Guide"

6) What do you particularly like, and why?

7) What do you particularly dislike, and why?

8) Do you like The Gateway's present layout? Could its appearance be improved, and if so, how?

9) Even though The Gateway is the UNO newspaper, is it too campus-oriented? Give examples.

10) Is there anything you would like to see included in The Gateway that is not? Anything which should be dropped?

11) Do you like or dislike the traditional end-of-semester "Hateway" parody issue? Why or why not?

# 'Killing Fields' heartwrenching and visually exquisite

"The Killing Fields" are in Cambodia.

In a neutral nation deliberately bombed by the United States to relieve pressure on American troops in Vietnam, hatred of the West festered into a bloody eruption called the Khmer Rouge.

After pouring all the fuel they possibly could on the flame, the "major" powers pulled out of Southeast Asia. They abandoned their friends and their promises to the "killing fields."

## Review

The Khmer Rouge emptied the westernized, capitalistic cities. Within the decade since 1975, it is estimated one-third of Cambodia's population has been killed.

"The Killing Fields" is a very personal movie based on the experiences of Sydney Schanberg and Dith Pran.

Schanberg was a correspondent for The New York Times in Cambodia. In 1976 he was named Journalist of the Year by his peers, but the award was gained at the expense of his best friend,

Pran.

Pran stayed in Cambodia to help Schanberg cover the fall of the pro-American regime and the takeover by the Khmer Rouge. He saved Schanberg's life more than once, and got him his stories.

They both underestimated the hatred the people felt for the western powers and those who supported them. Schanberg could not save Pran when the Khmer Rouge demanded he be turned over to them.

"The Killing Fields" is the story of Schanberg's love and guilt. Equal emphasis is placed on Pran's experiences in "the killing fields" — the re-education camps where understanding even a few words of English or French brought torture and death.

There is an incredible sense of authenticity in "The Killing Fields." Cambodia is a breathtakingly beautiful land — contrasted with torched bodies and acres of skeletons.

The photography presents strongly etched, unforgettable scenes. The music by Mike Oldfield brings out emotions deeply tied to events depicted on the screen.

Director Roland Joffe pulls together eccentric moments in a

chaotic history to make a cohesive, powerful drama. Many elements in the movie, although connected, are not explained. The viewer needs to pay close attention to all the characters in the movie, and read between the lines in situations where the story would be bogged down by lengthy exposition.

The show belongs to Haing S. Ngor, who plays Dith Pran. He is primarily Ngor who convinces us this is a true story. He is proud, fearful, courageous, gentle — a man heroic in goodness. What he did — survive — is not so admirable as how he did it. He did not become Chuck Norris or Billy Jack. Pran survived by intelligence, kindness and dignity.

Sam Waterston is an excellent actor, credible in any role he assumes. As Schanberg he is an ambitious, impatient man who also really cares about telling the truth. He made a mistake in having Pran stay in Cambodia; he doesn't know how to expiate that sin.

"The Killing Fields" is a war movie. It is grim and depressing. It is also very intense and moving. "The Killing Fields" is an amazing movie, but it is not entertainment.

—PATTI DALE

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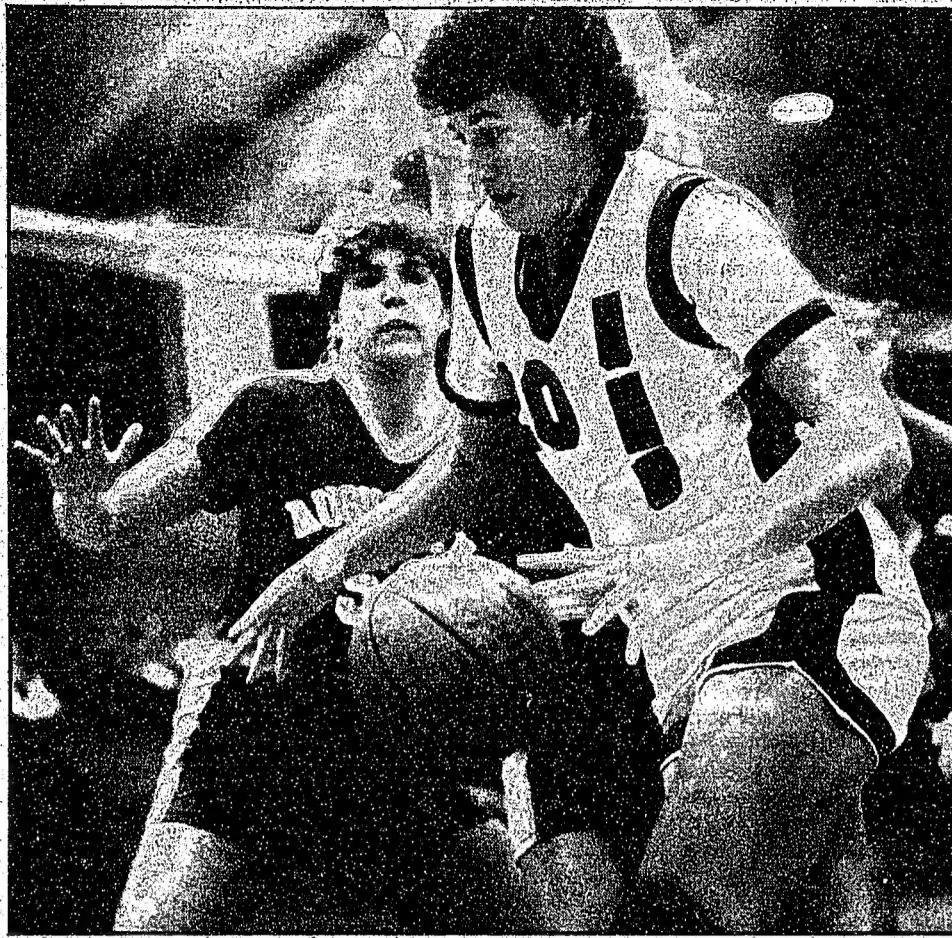
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All movies shown in the Eppley Auditorium

# Sports

## Lady Mavs shake off skid, post double wins



Action packed... Julie Hengemuehler guards the ball from Augustana's Kim Anderson (25). Hengemuehler led the Lady Mavs with 16 points, as UNO downed Augustana 72-67 Saturday night.

NaoHiro Kimura

By MIKE JONES

A strong inside game powered the Lady Mavs past South Dakota State and Augustana in conference basketball action.

Friday, the Lady Mavs beat South Dakota State, 67-56. The women then defeated Augustana Saturday night, 72-67.

UNO, now 4-5 in conference play, got 12 points from senior post player Julie Hengemuehler under the basket. Hengemuehler picked up feeds from guards Rayna Wagley, Jena Janovy and Carm Johnson to lead Lady Mav scorers with 16 points on Saturday. Friday, Ronda Motykowski benefitted from the guards to lead the team with 16 points, 13 in the second half.

The guards spread the ball around, passing to Laura Jane Anderson and Jamie Collins for 10 points on Saturday. Friday night, the passes had gone to Mary McCauley and Jackie Scholten. The pair of 6-foot-2-inch sophomore post players scored nine apiece Friday.

"It was good to get two home games under the belt," Lady Mav Coach Cherri Mankenberg said. "We needed two wins for sure anyway."

According to Mankenberg, SDSU was probably the better of the two teams. She said that against Augustana, UNO had to slow the game down. Despite the fact that Augustana was winless in the conference, Mankenberg was concerned.

"Augustana is a fine shooting team," Mankenberg said. "They can really hit it from the outside."

Mankenberg said that she was disappointed in the inability of the Lady Mavs to put the game away. UNO had a lead of 10 points, but would allow Augustana to continually close the

lead. According to Mankenberg, the shooting percentage of UNO left room for improvement.

UNO shot only 36.8 percent from the field in a game which was ragged at times. Augustana, despite some excellent long range shots, finished with only 35.9 percent shooting.

"It wasn't the prettiest of games," Mankenberg said, "but they were playing really tough, and we took some bad shots."

According to Mankenberg, Augustana was playing hard in search of a first conference win.

The pair of wins snapped a four-game skid for the Lady Mavs. UNO hadn't won two consecutive games since the Christmas break. Injuries and minor illnesses have plagued the team in many of the losses. UNO is now 13-9 for the season.

"It was good to have everybody back," Mankenberg said, "but now Holly Lynch may be out with a back injury. At least everybody was healthy this weekend."

The Lady Mavs will travel to St. Cloud State and Mankato State this weekend. St. Cloud leads the midwest regional standings and is ranked fifth in the nation. Three weeks ago, UNO pulled off an upset of St. Cloud with a 61-59 home court victory.

"That's going to be a real good test for us," Mankenberg said. "They are a lot of the same style of team as we are. They play a lot of zones and they've got big girls."

According to Mankenberg, the team is now moving into its second season and will be playing each conference school for the second time. UNO reversed an earlier 66-49 SDSU win in Brookings and beat Augustana for the second time.

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# Campus-rec coordinator leaves UNO for UCLA post

By POLIDOROS C. PSERROS

A campus recreation employee cited by the Board of Regents for his service to the university leaves UNO Friday to accept a position at UCLA. Dan Wax, assistant coordinator of campus recreation and coordinator of intramurals, will become the coordinator of intramural sports at the California school.

Wax said the new position was a boost in his career as "a major increase in salary," an increase in responsibility, and the opportunity to work in a 100,000 square-foot recreational facility opened in 1983. Wax also said he wanted to return to his native state.

"I'm definitely not going to miss the winter, period, exclamation mark, double exclamation mark," he said.

Sid Gonsoulin, coordinator of campus recreation, named Scott Reetz acting intramural coordinator. A Denver native, Reetz is a HPER graduate student and a campus recreation graduate assistant.

UCLA's student population of 33,000 is more than double UNO's 15,000. Wax said the UCLA campus includes dormitories and 40 surrounding fraternity and sorority houses.

As a result, UCLA has 10,000 intramural participants compared to 3,000 at UNO. Wax ran a program that included 35 volleyball, 36 flag football, and 60 basketball teams. UCLA's program, by comparison, includes 275 volleyball, 275 flag football, and 350 basketball teams.

Wax said he is pleased with his contribution to the university. "I think I was involved when we increased, both quantity and quality," he said. "Specifically, the female participation has taken a significant jump."

Wax introduced several new programs, such as the official's club. "Officiating helps develop character," Gonsoulin said. "It helps develop character of men and women." He added that the club not only provides officials for UNO's programs, it is also being recognized as a source in the community.

Wax started the Burt Kurth Merit Award. Kurth, now retired, was intramural director for 21 years. The award is given to the individual who has participated and contributed to the intramural program in an exemplary manner. Wax also introduced the intramural advisory council of student leaders who provide input in running the campus recreation program.

Wax, who officiates on the high school and collegiate level,

teaches Sports Officiating and Recreation for Leisure, a required course in HPER's professional program.

In October 1982, the Board of Regents gave Wax a kudo for his work with the UNO Ambassador program. The Ambassadors, a group of 12 students and two alternates, serve as the "official hosts and hostesses for the institution," according to Richard Hoover, the vice-chancellor of educational and student services.

"We're sorry to see him (Wax) go," Hoover said. "He's a good man; he'll go far in his career."

Wax, 29, a native of Palo Alto, Calif., graduated from the University of California at Berkeley in 1977 with a bachelor of arts in psychology. He earned his master's in education with an emphasis on recreational administration from Tulane (New Orleans) in 1980; his graduate assistantship was at Loyola of New Orleans. He came to UNO in August 1980.

Gonsoulin said he thought Wax was one of the outstanding young professionals on the move in the recreation field.

"I'll miss the friendships, the lower cost of living, and the job," Wax said, "not in that order necessarily."

## Men's basketball team drops two

South Dakota State took advantage of a Maverick swoon and Augustana picked up a key questionable call late in the game, as UNO dropped two conference home games.

Friday, the Mavs controlled SDSU for most of the game, limiting the conference leaders until 14:25 remaining in the second. According to Coach Bob Hanson, the Mavs then began to lose their poise. SDSU capitalized on the swoon to run off 13 points and turn a 47-41 deficit into a 54-47 lead with eight minutes remaining.

UNO began to fight back, picking up free throws and turnovers. With 4:30 remaining, UNO had closed the SDSU gap to two, 60-58, but Mark Tetzlaff reeled off a short jumper and SDSU followed with two more quick points.

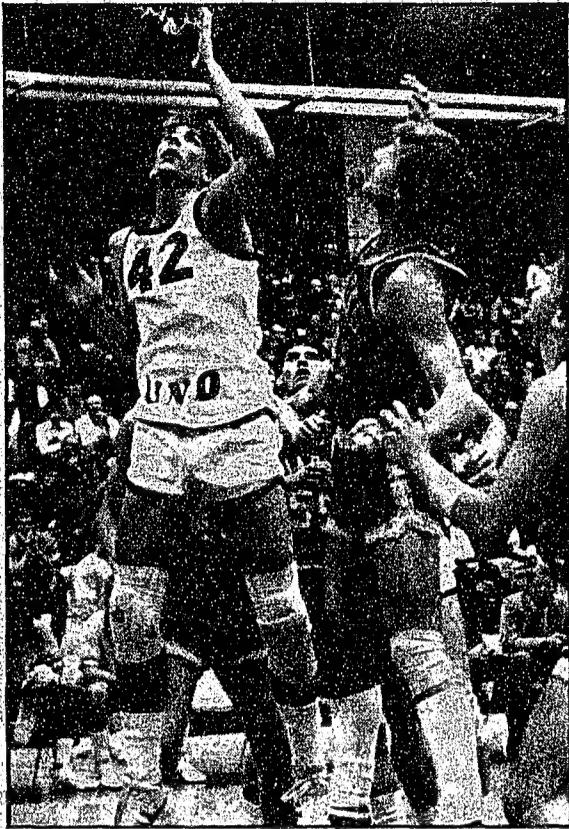
During the final 1:30, UNO sent SDSU to the free throw line 13 times. The Jackrabbits nailed 12 of those shots to close out a 78-68 win.

Freshman Mike Born scored 16 points in the loss. Terry Sodawasser added 12 and Bill Jacobson had 10. Team scoring leader Dwayne King was unable to get untracked and made only one of two shots.

On Saturday, UNO dropped its second questionable loss to the Augustana Vikings, when a Viking shot with six seconds remaining went awry. In the ensuing struggle for the rebound, Augustana's Rob Velasco may-or-may-not have hung on the rim.

The UNO collapsible rim was drawn down six to eight inches and as it snapped back, Shaun Hickman tipped the ball in. Hanging on the rim is a technical violation and should have resulted in a disallowed basket and a Maverick trip to the free throw line. According to Hanson, the refs said they hadn't seen the foul. One second remained on the scoreboard.

The Mavs tried to inbound the ball, but Terry Sodawasser's pass was wide off the court. The Vikings inbounded for an easy two and the final score showed Augustana the winner by a three-point margin, 50-47.



NaoHiro Kimura

Up for the rebound, . . . following a Dwayne King shot, Terry Sodawasser (42) prepares for the battle of the boards against Augustana.

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